(c) and (d) No decision as yet has been taken with regard to the continuance or not of the Scheme beyond the 9th Five Year Plan period ending on 31st March, 2002. As regards the services of the Project Officers and community organisers, the matter has to be decided by the State Government.

Officers working in sensitive posts for years in violation of CVC's order

3029. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Deputy Directors/ Section Officers in his Ministry and attached offices are working for more than three years in sensitive posts in violation of Central Vigilance Commission's Order No. 98/VGL/60, dated 15th April, 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to follow the instructions strictly in regard to rotation of officials working in sensitive posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Transfers of officers working in sensitive posts for more than three years is a continuing process and are effected while taking note of exigencies of work in the Ministry and its attached offices.

Privatisation of Water Supply

3030. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have privatised the water supply in the country;

(b) if so, the private agencies functioning in Gujarat to supply water there;

(c) the total investment made by Government and the funds provided to Gujarat;

(d) the reasons for supply of drinking water once a week on ration card; and

(e) the steps being taken to overcome such shortage of water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Government of Gujarat has reported that it has not taken up any water supply project through the private sector.

(c) Under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) for towns of less than 20,000 population, the Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation has so far released total Central assistance of Rs. 1094.82 lakhs to Govt. of Gujarat for 19 water supply schemes costing Rs. 2750.15 lakhs.

(d) Government of Gujarat has reported that drinking water was not supplied on ration card.

(e) Government of Gujarat has reported that the following steps have been taken to overcome the shortage of water:—

(i) Posing Rs. 392 crores drinking water scarcity master plan 2000-2001 covering 6545 villages, 68 towns and 5 Municipal Corporations to Government of India as temporary measure, which includes pumping from Sardar Sarovar Dam since February, 2001 to provide water through Mahi Emergency Pipe Line Project and accordingly 442 villages and 30 towns have been supplied with Saurashtra Mahi Pipe Line Project.

(ii) Water is collected in the Pariej tank in Kheda District through Narmada Canals (146 Kms) and Mahi Canals (110 Kms).

(iii) Water from the Pariej tank is pumped into the transmission mains having 690 kms. length to supply water to the urban and rural areas of Ahmedabad, Bhavnagar, Amreli, Rajkot and Junagadh districts.

(iv) From this system water is made available to 30 urban centres.

(v) Narmada water is also made available to 4 Municipal Corporations, viz Baroda, Ahmedabad, Bhavnagar and Rajkot.

Handing over of Old Secretariat to Government

3031. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state: